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Chinese periodical, Ne-ch'ing — Shang hai Weekly, Vol II, No 16, 25 April 1948. (Translation specifically requested.)

## NEW RAILS ON EASTERN SECTION MAIN-CHOING - SHANG-HAI RAILWAY

This railway, in order to increase the safety and effectiveness of movement of its trains, set up in early 1947 a plan for changing the rails on its eastern section. This plan is to be carried out by periods.

The first period's work, covering 80 km from Shang-hai to Su-chou (Soothow), was completed by November 1947. Minety-pound rails furnished by the Ministry of Communications were installed, and the number of ties was increased from 1,740 to 1,860 per km. The stability of the road and comfort of the trains as compared with the past is very noticeably improved, and since January 1948 the running time has been cut about 12 minutes.

Recently a new shipment of 90-pound rails from abroad has been received by the Ministry of Communications and assigned to this railway to provide for changing the rails west of Su-chou. Work unite for changing rails have been organized at Su-chou and Ch'ang-chou.

The second period of the rail-changing project began about the middle of this month /April/ and is proceeding simultaneously from Wu-hei and Ch'ang-chou at an extimated rate of approximately 2 km per day. If accessary sup.lics can be delivered fast enough, the changing of rails on this section may be completed early in June. The operating efficiency and speed of trains on the eastern section of the railway will thereby be greatly improved.

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